

## Litter picking health and safety checklist

People taking part in litter picks do so entirely at their own risk. They are not working for, or on behalf of, Bristol Waste Company or Bristol City Council.

COVID-19: Please follow government coronavirus guidance and make sure your litter picks are carried out in the safest way possible. Anyone who has recently tested positive test for COVID-19, is displaying symptoms or has been advised to self-isolate should not participate.

### Follow these general litter picking guidelines

- ✓ Make sure your litter pick is within the Bristol area and not BANES or South Gloucestershire.
- ✓ Leave your bags in an accessible place by the road so our crew can safely collect them.
- ✓ Avoid touching litter with your hands.
- ✓ Avoid touching the litter bags with any part of your body.
- ✓ Cover any cuts and injuries with a waterproof plaster or dressing.
- ✓ Wear sturdy shoes and weather appropriate clothing.
- ✓ Always wear a hi viz (high visibility) vest or jacket.
- ✓ Clean your hands after your litter pick and before eating or drinking.

### Be aware of your surroundings and do not put yourself at risk whilst litter picking

- ✓ Tell someone where you are going and stay in mobile contact.
- ✓ Only pick in daylight hours and do not pick when visibility is poor, such as in foggy weather.
- ✓ Be careful around bushes and brambles. We do not provide safety goggles, but you may wish to wear your own.
- ✓ Be aware of traffic at all times. Stop picking to allow any vehicle to pass. Never turn your back towards oncoming traffic.

- ✓ Be aware of the risk of ticks and insects in long grass or bushes.
- ✓ Follow local rules as well as our guidelines, including safe and lawful parking.
- ✗ Do not confront anyone you see littering.

### Stay safe and avoid hazardous litter

- ✗ Do not pick up litter with your hands, even if you are wearing gloves.
- ✗ Do not attempt to lift heavy items with the pickers, they will break if you try to lift something too heavy. If any of the pickers do get damaged, just let us know so we can get them mended.
- ✗ Do not overfill bin bags and avoid lifting heavy objects or sacks alone.
- ✗ Do not pick up items that cannot easily be identified or if they are clearly hazardous. If you are concerned report the item to [Bristol City Council](#).
- ✗ Do not attempt to remove dead or live animals. You can report them to [Bristol City Council](#).
- ✗ Do not pick up needles or drug litter. This must be left alone and reported to [Bristol City Council](#).

### Help prevent the spread of COVID-19

- ✓ Follow any social distancing rules that are in place.
- ✓ Wear face coverings and use hand sanitiser where and when appropriate.
- ✓ You may also choose to wear gloves. You should still avoid touching litter with your hands even if you are wearing gloves.
- ✓ Wash your hands before and after your litter pick.
- ✓ Choose your litter pick location carefully. If social-distancing rules are in place, choose a place where you can stay 2m (or 1m+) apart while you litter pick.
- ✗ Do not share litter pickers and avoid contact with other people's equipment. If you can't avoid sharing equipment, using sanitizer or soap and water to clean the equipment first.

## What to do after your litter pick

### Tell us how much litter you collected

Please fill in your results: [www.bristolwastecompany.co.uk/litterpick](http://www.bristolwastecompany.co.uk/litterpick)

### Arrange to have the litter picked up by Bristol Waste

Fill in our online form giving us as much information as you can:

[www.bristolwastecompany.co.uk/litterpick](http://www.bristolwastecompany.co.uk/litterpick)

If you find any bigger bulky items that don't fit in the bags, make sure you state this in the collection form or report it as fly-tipping through the council website.

[www.bristol.gov.uk/flytipping](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/flytipping)

### If you need to change your return date or time for your kits:

Email: [hello@bristolwastecompany.co.uk](mailto:hello@bristolwastecompany.co.uk) Or call: 0117 304 9022

## Useful contacts

### Bristol City Council

[www.bristol.gov.uk/report-a-street-issue](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/report-a-street-issue)

Customer service centre: 0117 922 2100

Emergency Control: 0117 922 2050

*(only to be used for report urgent issues at weekends)*

### Bristol Waste Community Engagement Team (Monday – Friday)

Phone: 0117 304 9022

Email: [hello@bristolwastecompany.co.uk](mailto:hello@bristolwastecompany.co.uk)

### RSPCA (to report animal cruelty or an animal in distress)

24-hour phone line: 0300 1234 999

Online: [www.rspca.org.uk/utilities/contactus/reportcruelty](http://www.rspca.org.uk/utilities/contactus/reportcruelty)